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**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
Provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/988,792
Filing Date	November 20, 2001
Named Inventors	Lipkowski & Carr
Group Art Unit	1647
Examiner Name	V. L. Ford
Attorney Docket Number	18475-025 (NEMC-6)

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See *Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice*, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

a. ☐ Previously submitted

- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- iii. ☐ A verified statement claiming small entity status is on file in the prior application and such status is still proper and desired (37 C.F.R. § 1.28(a)).

b. ☒ Enclosed:

- i. ☒ Amendment and Response to Final Office Action of January 26, 2004 (5 pages);
- ii. ☒ Petition for a 4 Month Extension of Time (1 page, in duplicate); and
- iii. ☒ Return Postcard.

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 18475-025 (NEMC-6):
- b. ☒ Enclosed:
 - i. ☒ Check #19972 in the amount of \$395.00 - RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e);
 - ii. ☒ Check #19973 in the amount of \$765.00 - 4M extension fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(4).

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name. (Print/Type)	Kristin E. Konzak	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	44,848
Signature		Date	January 26, 2005
		Customer No.	30623

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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